

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 14 as indicated in the instructions which follow:

The figure ~~Fig. 1~~ shows the particular design of the cassette device in form of a "hollow box" having top and bottom, front and rear and lateral sides, said top and bottom sides having width dimensions, between said lateral sides, and depth dimensions, between said front and rear sides, which are substantially greater than the dimensions of said front, rear and lateral sides, between said top and bottom sides, wherein said bottom side and said front, rear and lateral sides have a higher material stiffness than the top side and wherein said top side is a deformable convex carrier material for the storage or stimuable phosphor sheet layer (NIP or "needle image plate"), which provides ability for top and bottom side of the box to become plan parallel as a consequence of an under-pressure by suction of air (or another - preferably inert - gas) from an opening in at least one of the front, the rear or the lateral sides of the hollow box (direction of the arrow leaving the box away from the opening in the lateral side) indicating the direction of the air as pressure P_2 inside the box is lower than P_1 outside the box. The other arrow near the top side NIP-sheet or panel indicates that the top panel is deformed when taking air from the box by suction, making use of a pump, thus flattening the top side panel in order to get a plan parallel top and bottom side.

Amend the paragraph starting on page 13, line 27, as indicated in the following:

It is an essential feature of the hollow box, th at the top plane carrying the stimuable phosphor layer, has a material stiffness that is ~~higher~~ lower than the material stiffness of the bottom plane and the side walls (called "front", "rear" and "lateral" sides) respectively. The requisite stiffness or rigidity against bending or flexing should be present along any directions, apart for the top layer direction as the said top layer should be deformable.